NOTE: The requirements of paragraph (a) of this section do not apply to noncommercial educational FM broadcast stations operating on reserved channels. (Channels 200 through 220)

(b) The transmitter location should be chosen to maximize coverage to the city of license while minimizing interference. This is normally accomplished by locating in the least populated area available while maintaining the provisions of paragraph (a) of this section. In general, the transmitting antenna of a station should be located in the most sparsely populated area available at the highest elevation available. The location of the antenna should be so chosen that line-of-sight can be obtained from the antenna over the principle city or cities to be served; in no event should there be a major obstruction in this path.

(c) The transmitting location should be selected so that the 1 mV/m contour encompasses the urban population within the area to be served. It is recognized that topography, shape of the desired service area, and population distribution may make the choice of a transmitter location difficult. In such cases consideration may be given to the use of a directional antenna system, although it is generally preferable to choose a site where a nondirectional antenna may be employed.

(d) In cases of questionable antenna locations it is desirable to conduct propagation tests to indicate the field strength expected in the principal city or cities to be served and in other areas, particularly where severe shadow problems may be expected. In considering applications proposing the use of such locations, the Commission may require site tests to be made. Such tests should include measurements made in accordance with the measurement procedures described in §73.314, and full data thereon shall be supplied to the Commission. The test transmitter should employ an antenna having a height as close as possible to the proposed antenna height, using a balloon or other support if necessary and feasible. Information concerning the authorization of site tests may be obtained from the Commission upon request.

(e) Cognizance must of course be taken regarding the possible hazard of the proposed antenna structure to aviation and the proximity of the proposed site to airports and airways. Procedures and standards with respect to the Commission's consideration of proposed antenna structures which will serve as a guide to persons intending to apply for radio station licenses are contained in Part 17 of this chapter (Construction, Marking, and Lighting of Antenna Structures).

[28 FR 13623, Dec. 14, 1963, as amended at 41 FR 22943, June 8, 1976; 49 FR 38131, Sept. 27, 1984; 49 FR 45146, Nov. 15, 1984; 51 FR 9965, Mar. 24, 1986; 52 FR 10570, Apr. 2, 1987]

§ 73.316 FM antenna systems.

(a) It shall be standard to employ horizontal polarization; however, circular or elliptical polarization may be employed if desired. Clockwise or counterclockwise rotation may be used. The supplemental vertically polarized effective radiated power required for circular or elliptical polarization shall in no event exceed the effective radiated power authorized.

(b) *Directional antennas.* A directional antenna is an antenna that is designed or altered for the purpose of obtaining a non-circular radiation pattern.

(1) Applications for the use of directional antennas that propose a ratio of maximum to minimum radiation in the horizontal plane of more than 15 dB will not be accepted.

(2) Directional antennas used to protect short-spaced stations pursuant to §73.213 or §73.215 of the rules, that have a radiation pattern which varies more than 2 dB per 10 degrees of azimuth will not be authorized.

(c) *Applications for directional antennas.* Applications proposing the use of directional antenna systems must be accompanied by the following:

(1) A complete description of the proposed antenna system, including the manufacturer and model number of the proposed directional antenna. It is not sufficient to label the antenna with only a generic term such as ''dipole''. A

specific model number must be provided. In the case of individually designed antennas with no model number, or in the case of a composite antenna composed of two or more individual antennas, the antenna must be described as a ''custom'' or ''composite'' antenna, as appropriate. A full description of the design of the antenna must also be submitted.

(2) A relative field horizontal plane pattern of the proposed directional antenna. A single pattern encompassing both the horizontal and vertical polarization is required, rather than separate patterns for horizontal and vertical polarization. A value of 1.0 must be used to correspond to the direction of maximum radiation. The plot of the pattern must be oriented such that 0° corresponds to the direction of maximum radiation or alternatively, in the case of an asymmetrical antenna pattern, the plot must be oriented such that 0° corresponds to the actual azimuth with respect to true North. The horizontal plane pattern must be plotted to the largest scale possible on unglazed letter-size polar coordinate paper (main engraving approximately 18 cm x 25 cm (7 inches x 10 inches)) using only scale divisions and subdivisions of 1, 2, 2.5, or 5 times 10-nth. Values of field strength less than 10% of the maximum field strength plotted on that pattern must be shown on an enlarged scale. In the case of a composite antenna composed of two or more individual antennas, the pattern required is that for the composite antenna, not the patterns for each of the individual antennas.

(3) A tabulation of the relative field pattern required in paragraph (c)(2) of this section. The tabulation must use the same zero degree reference as the plotted pattern, and must contain values for at least every 10°. In addition, tabulated values of all maximas and minimas, with their corresponding azimuths, must be submitted.

(4) Sufficient vertical patterns to indicate clearly the radiation characteristics of the antenna above and below the horizontal plane. Complete information and patterns must be provided for angles of ±10° from the horizontal plane and sufficient additional information must be included on that portion of the pattern lying between +10° and the zenith and −10° and the nadir, to conclusively demonstrate the absence of undesirable lobes in these areas. The vertical plane pattern must be plotted on rectangular coordinate paper with reference to the horizontal plane. In the case of a composite antenna composed of two or more individual antennas, the pattern required is that for the composite antenna, not the patterns for each of the individual antennas.

(5) A statement that the antenna will be mounted on the top of an antenna tower recommended by the antenna manufacturer, or will be side-mounted on a particular type of antenna tower in accordance with specific instructions provided by the antenna manufacturer.

(6) A statement that the directional antennas will not be mounted on the top of an antenna tower which includes a top-mounted platform larger than the nominal cross-sectional area of the tower in the horizontal plane.

(7) A statement that no other antennas of any type are mounted on the same tower level as a directional antenna, and that no antenna of any type is mounted within any horizontal or vertical distance specified by the antenna manufacturer as being necessary for proper directional operation.

(8) In the case of applications for license upon completion of antenna construction, a statement from an engineer (as well as a statement of the engineer's qualifications) that the antenna has been installed pursuant to the manufacturer's instructions and a statement from a licensed surveyor that the antenna is installed in the proper orientation.

(d) Applications proposing the use of FM transmitting antennas in the immediate vicinity (*i.e.* 60 meters or less) of other FM or TV broadcast antennas must include a showing as to the expected effect, if any, of such approximate operation.

(e) In cases where it is proposed to use a tower of a AM broadcast station as a supporting structure for an FM broadcast antenna, an application for construction permit (or modification of construction permit) for such AM

broadcast station must be filed for consideration with the FM application, only in the event the overall height of the AM broadcast station tower changes. Applications may be required for other classes of stations when their towers are to be used in connection with FM stations.

(f) When an FM broadcast antenna is mounted on a nondirectional AM broadcast antenna, new resistance measurements must be made of the AM broadcast antenna after installation and testing of the FM broadcast antenna. During the installation and until the new resistance determination is approved, the AM broadcast station licensee should operate by the indirect method of power determination. The FM broadcast license application will not be considered until the application form concerning resistance measurements is filed for the AM broadcast station.

(g) When an FM broadcast antenna is mounted on an element of a AM broadcast directional antenna, a full engineering study concerning the effect of the FM broadcast antenna on the directional pattern must be filed with the application concerning the AM broadcast station. Depending upon the individual case, the Commission may require readjustment and certain field strength measurements of the AM broadcast station following the completion of the FM broadcast antenna system.

(h) When the proposed FM antenna is to be mounted on a tower in the vicinity of an AM station directional antenna system and it appears that the operation of the directional antenna system may be affected, an engineering study must be filed with the FM application concerning the effect of the FM antenna on the AM directional radiation pattern. Field strength measurements of the AM station may be required prior to and following construction of the FM station antenna, and readjustments made as necessary.

(i) Information regarding data required in connection with AM broadcast directional antenna systems may be found in §73.150 of this chapter. (See also AM Broadcast Technical Standards.)

[28 FR 13623, Dec. 14, 1963, as amended at 34 FR 14222, Sept. 10, 1969; 37 FR 25841, Dec. 5, 1972; 43 FR 53738, Nov. 17, 1978; 48 FR 29508, June 27, 1983; 51 FR 17028, May 8, 1986; 54 FR 9804, Mar. 8, 1989; 56 FR 57294, Nov. 8, 1991; 58 FR 44950, Aug. 25, 1993]

§73.317 FM transmission system requirements.

(a) FM broadcast stations employing transmitters authorized after January 1, 1960, must maintain the bandwidth occupied by their emissions in accordance with the specification detailed below. FM broadcast stations employing transmitters installed or type accepted before January 1, 1960, must achieve the highest degree of compliance with these specifications practicable with their existing equipment. In either case, should harmful interference to other authorized stations occur, the licensee shall correct the problem promptly or cease operation.

(b) Any emission appearing on a frequency removed from the carrier by between 120 kHz and 240 kHz inclusive must be attenuated at least 25 dB below the level of the unmodulated carrier. Compliance with this requirement will be deemed to show the occupied bandwidth to be 240 kHz or less.

(c) Any emission appearing on a frequency removed from the carrier by more than 240 kHz and up to and including 600 kHz must be attenuated at least 35 dB below the level of the unmodulated carrier.

(d) Any emission appearing on a frequency removed from the carrier by more than 600 kHz must be attenuated at least $43 + 10 \text{ Log}_{10}$ (Power, in watts) dB below the level of the unmodulated carrier, or 80 dB, whichever is the lesser attenuation.

(e) Preemphasis shall not be greater than the impedance-frequency characteristics of a series inductance resistance network having a time constant of 75 microseconds. (See upper curve of Figure 2 of §73.333.)

[51 FR 17028, May 8, 1986]

§73.318 FM blanketing interference.

Areas adjacent to the transmitting antenna that receive a signal with a strength of 115 dBu (562 mV/m) or